AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments:

1. (Currently Amended) A code translation method ~~for converting the format of user data placed in a user extension area in a received input code compliant with a certain standard to generate an output code or adding user data to a received input code compliant with a certain standard to generate an output code,~~ comprising the steps of:

receiving an input code stored in a hierarchical data structure, the input code including

~~changing~~ a parameter ~~which determines an allowable range of~~ related to the amount of data [[in]] encoded by the input code, ~~to comply with the format conversion or addition of the user data; and~~

user data at a first level of the hierarchical data structure, and

main data at a second level of the hierarchical data structure; and

~~multiplexing the input code obtained after the parameter change and the user data in a predetermined format to generate the output code according to the changed parameter~~

generating an output code stored in the hierarchical data structure by modifying the input code, by

moving the user data to a third level of the hierarchical data structure, and

changing the parameter to reflect the change in code size effected by the moving;

wherein the main data included in the output code is identical to the main data included in the input code.

2. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 1, wherein

the hierarchical data structure conforms with the ISO 13818-2 standard;

the ~~changed~~ parameter related to the amount of data encoded by the input code is ~~at least~~ one of [[the]] a bit rate value, [[the]] a VBV (Video Buffering Verifier) buffer size value, and [[the]] a VBV delay value; and ~~in compression/encoding of multimedia information~~

the main data comprises compressed video data.

3. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein ~~further comprising the step of changing the bit rate value by a bit rate change estimation value of code translation~~

the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer; and

the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer.

4. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein ~~further comprising the step of changing the VBV buffer size value to a maximum value allowed by the standard~~

the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer; and

the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer.

5. (Currently Amended) The code translation method of claim 2, wherein ~~further comprising the step of changing~~ the VBV ~~delay value to make the output code conformable to a variable bit rate setting~~ buffer size parameter is changed to a maximum value allowed by the ISO 13818-2 standard.

6. (Original) The code translation method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating additional information for distinguishing the user data included in the input code from the other main data,

wherein generation of the output code is advanced according to the additional information.

7. (Original) The code translation method of claim 6, further comprising the step of minimizing a synchronization difference between main data and user data in the output code.

8 – 10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A code translation device ~~for converting the format of user data placed in a user extension area in a received input code compliant with a certain standard to generate an output code,~~ comprising:

a data analyzing section ~~for analyzing the~~ adapted to identify in an input code stored in a hierarchical data structure ~~and changing~~ a parameter ~~which determines an allowable range of~~ related to the amount of data [[in]] encoded by the input code, ~~to comply with the format conversion of~~ the user data ~~and for generating additional information for distinguishing the user data included in the input code from the other~~ at a first level of the hierarchical data structure, and main data at a second level of the hierarchical data structure; and

a multiplexing section ~~for multiplexing the input code obtained after the parameter change and the user data in a predetermined format according to the additional information to generate the~~ which produces an output code ~~according to the changed parameter~~ in which the input code is modified such that the user data is moved to a third level of the hierarchical data structure, the parameter is changed to reflect the change in code size effected by moving the user data, and the main data included in the output code is identical to the main data included in the input code.

12 – 13. (Canceled).

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14. (New) The code translation device of claim 11, wherein

the hierarchical data structure conforms with the ISO 13818-2 standard;

the parameter related to the amount of data encoded by the input code is one of a bit rate value, a VBV (Video Buffering Verifier) buffer size value, and a VBV delay value; and

the main data comprises compressed video data.

15. (New) The code translation device of claim 14, wherein

the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer; and

the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer.

16. (New) The code translation device of claim 14, wherein

the first level of the hierarchical data structure is the picture layer; and

the third level of the hierarchical data structure is the Group of Pictures (GOP) layer.

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